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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/01198 (22) International Filing Date: 29 March 2000 (29.03.00) (30) Priority Data: 9907415.5 31 March 1999 (31.03.99) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CHIROTECH TECHNOLOGY LIMITED [GB/GB]; Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0WG (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): TAYLOR, Stephen, John, Clifford [GB/GB]; Chirotech Technology Limited, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0WG (GB). KEENE, Philip, Alexander [GB/GB]; Chirotech Technology Limited, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0WG (GB). (74) Agent: GILL JENNINGS & EVERY; Broadgate House, 7 Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LH (GB).		(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>With amended claims and statement.</i>
(54) Title: BIOCATALYST AND ITS USE IN ENZYMATIC RESOLUTION OF RACEMIC BETA-LACTAMS (57) Abstract A process for the preparation of an enantiomerically enriched β -lactam, comprises enantioselective hydrolysis of the corresponding racemic β -lactam in the presence of a lactamase enzyme capable of enantioselective hydrolysis of 3-azatricyclo[4.2.1.0 ^{2,5}]non-7-en-4-one and 7-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-4-en-8-one.		